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January 20, 2005

Honorable James H. Welsh
Commissioner of Conservation
State of Louisiana
Post Office Box 44275
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70804-4275

Re: APPLICATION FOR PUBLIC HEARING.

Brown-Ozley Sand and Brown-Ozley Sand, Reservoir
B, BEAR CREEK FIELD, Bienville Parish, Louisiana.

Dear Sir:

EL PASO PRODUCTION COMPANY ("Applicant") hereby respectfully applies for a public hearing to consider evidence relative to the issuance of Orders pertaining to the following matters relating to the Brown-Ozley Sand and to the Brown-Ozley Sand, Reservoir B, in the Bear Creek Field, Bienville Parish, Louisiana:

1. To permit Applicant to designate and utilize its Poland No. 2-D Well as an additional alternate unit well for BR-OZ SUBB, said well being located as shown on the attached plat, in exception to the well location provisions of Office of Conservation Order No. 78, effective February 9, 1944.
2. To permit Applicant to drill, designate, and utilize its Poole et al. No. 5 Well as an alternate unit well for BR-OZ RB SUA at the location shown on the attached plat.
3. To find that each of the proposed alternate unit wells is necessary to efficiently and economically drain a portion of the Brown-Ozley Sand underlying the unit on which the well is located which cannot be efficiently and economically drained by any existing well on such unit.
4. To permit the Operator of BR-OZ SUBB and BR-OZ RB SUA to produce the allowables assigned to these units from either the unit or substitute unit well, any alternate unit well, or from any combination of such wells, at the option of the Operator.
5. To consider such other matters as may be appropriate and justified by the evidence presented at the hearing.

The Brown-Ozley Sand in the Bear Creek Field, Bienville Parish, Louisiana, was defined in Office of Conservation Order No. 78-D, effective February 20, 1952.

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The Brown-Ozley Sand, Reservoir B, in the Bear Creek Field, Bienville Parish, Louisiana, was initially defined in Office of Conservation Order No. 78-V, effective August 29, 1979, and was redefined in Office of Conservation Order No. 78-V-1, effective November 6, 2002.

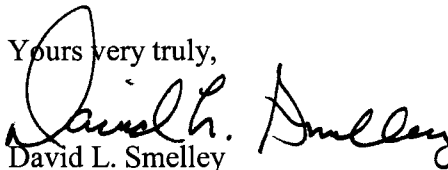
Pertinent data concerning this application is available for inspection at the offices of Louis Gilbert & Associates, Inc., 3636 N. Causeway Boulevard, Suite 204, Metairie, Louisiana 70002-7216. Any person wishing to inspect such data should call Mr. Louis Gilbert at (504) 834-8112 during normal business hours in order to arrange a date and time for such inspection. A copy of any such pertinent data which is not otherwise available from the records of the Louisiana Office of Conservation can be obtained from Applicant at the expense of the requesting party.

As provided by the Revised Rules of Procedure, the subject matter of this application does not require the issuance of a pre-application notice; therefore, no such notice has been issued.

Pursuant to the aforesaid Revised Rules of Procedure, Applicant has made a reasonable effort to obtain the names and addresses of all Interested Owners, Represented Parties and Interested Parties to whom notice of this application is being sent and has attached hereto a list of the names and addresses of such parties. A copy of this letter and of the attached plat is being sent to the District Manager of the Shreveport District of the Office of Conservation and to each of the Interested Owners, Represented Parties and Interested Parties as shown on the attached list.

Applicant will provide for posting of a copy of the Legal Notice of this hearing, and of the enclosed plat, at a prominent place in the area affected and will cause publication of the Legal Notice in a newspaper published in the general area of Bear Creek Field, all in accordance with the Revised Rules of Procedure. Furthermore, Applicant will mail a copy of the Legal Notice to all Interested Owners, Represented Parties and Interested Parties promptly upon receipt of the Legal Notice from the Commissioner.

Finally, enclosed herewith is our check payable to the Office of Conservation covering the application fee.

Yours very truly,

David L. Smelley

-- Attorney for El Paso Production Company

DLS:dp

Enclosures

cc: Mr. Jim Broussard (w/encls.)
Mr. Jerry McAnulty (w/encls.)
Mr. Louis Gilbert (w/encls.)
Interested Owners, Represented Parties
and Interested Parties (w/plat only)

